CASE DC/4-31692A

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1641

FU ET AL.

Examiner: David J. Venci

APPLICATION NO: 10/016.627 FILED: DECEMBER 10, 2001

FOR: INVERSE LABELING METHOD FOR THE RAPID IDENTIFIATION

OF MARKER/TARGET PROTEINS

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of January 4, 2006 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on April 4, 2006. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080 (617) 871-3343

Date: June 30, 2006

Paul J. Pagligfani

Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 52,498